The Department of Creative Writing
Moves into Kenan Hall

In December 2007, the department of Creative Writing moved from its home in Morton Hall to the newly renovated Kenan Hall and was ready for the start of the 2008 spring semester. Department Chair Philip Gerard had this to say about the move: “In our newly renovated quarters in Kenan Hall, for the first time, the whole creative writing department is under one roof: faculty and graduate teaching assistant offices, classrooms, the Publishing Laboratory, administrative offices and reception areas. This will enhance the sense of community that is so essential to our enterprise. As an added bonus, the Kenan courtyard has the potential to be a wonderful outdoor space for readings, receptions and other programs, and we are actively pursuing resources to make it a showplace for our department and UNCW. With this move, UNCW and the College of Arts and Sciences have demonstrated their commitment to our M.F.A. and B.F.A. programs and to The Publishing Laboratory—which is unique to our department. Our program has an established national profile, and our goal is to become one of the best creative writing departments in the nation.”

Awards and Honors

The Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) sponsor the Intro Journals Project which is an annual literary competition for the discovery and publication of the best new student work. The students must be enrolled in an AWP member program; to date there are 416 programs listed as AWP members. Awards are given in fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction. In the 2007-08 competition two UNCW M.F.A. students were recognized for their work. Erin Bond was selected as a winner of the Intro Journals Project in creative nonfiction. Her piece “Strong Force” will be published in Quarterly West. Miriam Parker was given honorable mention in the fiction category for “Rosenvasser’s Ghost,” a novel excerpt.

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Douglass Bourne's poem “Good Brother” was published in Issue 2 of the literary journal PANK.

Ashley Hudson placed her poem “Caramel is Normal” in Issue 9 of Six Little Things.

Janie Miller’s poem “Title: Juxtaposition of Peace” was accepted by the Columbia Poetry Review out of Columbia College, Chicago and will be published in spring 2008.

Amelia Morris is a finalist in Glimmer Train's New Writers Contest.

B.F.A. student Bethany Nuckolls received an honorable mention in UNCW's 2007 Flash Fiction Contest: Library Love 2.0. She also wrote a feature article for the UNCW Honors Scholars Newsletter, Periplus, and shared a byline in the 2007-08 winter issues of UNCW Magazine.

Miriam Parker’s story “Pardon My Doll” was accepted for publication in The Florida Review.

Carmen Rodriguez’s novel Not Anything was released on Feb. 5, 2008 by Berkeley Publishing. Not Anything is her first novel and has received a number of positive reviews. Thecompulsivereader.blogspot.com had this to say about it: “Not Anything is a surprisingly absorbing read. Susie is a freshly realistic character, and her indecision and grief are tangible. The captivating, witty and honest dialogue easily propels the reader through the book. Rodriguez writes with a confidence that proves she knows teenagers and the emotions that being a teen often entails. Full of mistakes, regrets, forgiveness, humor and love, Not Anything is one rewarding read.” The sequel, A Little Something, is expected to be published later this year.

Jennifer Shepard is a finalist in the 2007 Juked Poetry Prize for her poems “After Death” and “Death Sonnet.” She also placed two poems in The Journal, Ohio State University's literary magazine.


Kate Sweeney’s essay “Old Time Green Burial at Ramsey Creek Preserve” was accepted by Oxford American to be published in March 2008.

Daniel Terry’s poetry manuscript Capturing the Dead was the winner of the 2007 Stevens Competition and will be published by NFSPS Press in June 2008.

The competition was judged by Jeff Gundy, professor of English at Bluffton University in Ohio. Gundy wrote this about Capturing the Dead: “Among a very strong set of manuscripts, Capturing the Dead stands out for the clarity of its focus, the precision of its language, and the depth and subtlety of its emotional resonances. The author’s ability to create individual characters is nearly Shakespearian, his negative capability remarkable.

MFA Student Reading Series

The creative writing department’s M.F.A. Reading Series continued to grow this year, in both innovation and enthusiasm. Janie Miller and Kate Sweeney took over as organizers of the popular series of public readings, in which M.F.A. candidates share their fiction, poetry and nonfiction with the Wilmington community in a variety of public venues.

For the year’s first reading in September, graduate students shared the spotlight with writers from the community, as the series partnered with the Front Street art gallery Bottega. Bottega is a hub for the downtown art scene and has held a number of readings and poetryslams. October’s Halloween reading enjoyed great success as a fundraiser for Ecotone, UNCW’s national literary magazine.

Since then, the series has gained momentum partnering with WHQR, and most recently, with Era Art Gallery, which hosted the ridiculously sublime and funny Absurdist Valentine’s Day Reading.

The series’ organizers hope to continue to create a bridge between the thriving artistic and writing communities of the university and those of greater Wilmington. Readings are always open to the public, so keep your eyes and ears open for more evenings of wine, poetry and prose.
Lavonne Adams was the artist-in-residence at the Harwood Museum of Art, University of New Mexico-Taos last summer for five weeks. She gave a reading at the Harwood during her stay and also for the South Carolina Poetry Society, Pawley’s Island, in April 2007. Her poems have appeared in Red Rock Review, Alehouse, Southern Poetry Review, Asheville Poetry Review, and online in The Tupelo Press Poetry Project and BustedHalo.com. Her poem “Solid Ground” was published by The Briar Cliff Review and was chosen as one of two from the issue to be reprinted as a poster for fundraising purposes.

Karen Bender’s short story “Reunion” was published in Ploughshares in fall 2007. Her short story “Candidate” appeared in the spring 2007 edition of Ecotone and was chosen for New Stories from the South: The Year’s Best, 2008. She co-wrote “The Light, The Sword, and the Nintendo DS” with Robert Siegel for the anthology How to Spell Chanukah, which was published in November by Algonquin Books and also appeared on Nextbok.org in December. Bender co-edited the anthology Choice with Nina de Gramont. Choice was published by Macadam Cage in October 2007. Readings in support of the book were held in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Raleigh and Asheville. A number of radio interviews were conducted including Voice of America, the Broadminded show, and the Leonard Lopate show in New York. Her editorial piece for Huffington Post, “Stories Behind a Choice,” was published in October 2007. “The Literary Writer’s Strike,” a satire co-written with Robert Siegel, was published by the Huffington Post in January 2008.

Mark Cox’s work has recently appeared or is forthcoming in The Southern Review, The New Ohio Review, American Poetry Now (Pitt Poetry Series Anthology), and the 2008 Poets’ Guide to New Hampshire.

Clyde Edgerton’s ninth novel The Bible Salesman, is due to be released on Aug. 11, 2008 by Little Brown. Also the DVD of the movie Killer Diller made from Edgerton’s novel by the same name was released on Jan. 15, 2008, and is available for rent in national outlets.


Common soldiers and famous figures, from Matthew Brady to John Wilkes Booth to Lincoln himself, take on weight and solidity, captured in words that emulate the precision of film. Yet the poems also recognize the made quality of photographs, even when they seem the purest documentaries. There are no presumptuous claims of absolute truth or objective reality here; the great strength of these poems lies in their acute recognition of human subjectivity, how we are changed forever by what we see, and how we struggle to articulate the meaning of those changes.”

Jen Weathers was a finalist in the North Carolina State University Fiction Contest for her short-short story “Triplets.” The Pedestal Magazine is publishing her poem “The Rhinoceros at La Specola, Florence.”
Fall 2007 marked the beginning of a period of drastic change for *Atlantis*. Heading into the spring semester of 2008, the momentum of that change has yet to slow. *Atlantis* is completely different from what it was only a year ago – unrecognizable even.

When I stepped into the role of editor-in-chief around this time a year ago, I had very ambitious and specific ideas. I wanted to bring in a whole team of student designers, throw bigger and better events, and hire someone who would make *Atlantis* more money. I went to Barnes and Noble and sat between the racks of magazines for hours on end to get inspiration. My advisor was inundated with all of the new ideas. He cautioned me to slow down. The most important thing, he told me, was to go out and do research on peer institutions. So I did just that.

As I waded into the research, one thing became more and more apparent in my mind – I wanted to do something that was being done at very few universities in the country: I wanted to transform *Atlantis* from a little literary journal into a real magazine. The idea at the heart of this conviction was that *Atlantis* needed to be more visible in the community, to appeal to a wider range of the students whose student fees comprise our budget. I kept arriving at the fact that, in today’s culture, a magazine has a hard time surviving solely on the merit of its content – we live in a consumer-driven world, and consumers first perceive with their eyes. It pains me to admit it, but the vast majority of us judge books by their covers.

In the past year, *Atlantis* has grown from a sleepy journal with a handful of staff members into one of the biggest student organizations on campus. As an organization, *Atlantis* has its hands in many cookie jars, ranging from the predictable – prose, poetry, art, photography – to the more varied and ambitions such as design, public relations, sales and marketing, special projects, journalistic features, web content, and events planning. The magazine itself used to be very short, and we didn’t print very many each semester – usually around 1,000. Flash forward, and we’ve moved to standard-news rack magazine size, tripled the amount of color in the pages, quadrupled the page count and doubled the print run to 2,000 copies per issue. Being involved in so many new areas of publishing has left plenty of room for errors. There are more mistakes to learn from when you attempt much more. In the past year we, as a staff, have learned a lot, which is a nice way of saying that we’ve made many blunders. Our very supportive advisor, Bill DiNome, calls these “growing pains.”

And that’s just the magazine. We’ve taken on programming and have built an arsenal of events. Each has different aesthetics, which speaks to the diverse range of content in which we dabble. “From *Atlantis with Love*” is a monthly reading night we host at Bottega Art and Wine, located downtown on Front Street. On the first Tuesday of each month (even during the summer), *Atlantis* offers readings and live music to the public at no charge. Art is a semesterly festival-style event in which we rent a space for a day and coordinate as many creativity-centered events as possible. The most recent Art incorporated readings, live music, massage therapy, makeovers, fashion, a one-act play, installation art and an art show. The culmination of each semester is marked by the publication of the magazine, which coincides with our semesterly release parties, “*Atlantis Unleashed!*” These parties take place at the Soapbox Laundro Lounge downtown and feature the unveiling of the magazine along with giveaways, free food, live music, readings and art on display. This semester’s “*Atlantis Unleashed!*” is April 17.
We’re planning to tackle equally ambitious upgrades with *Atlantis* in the coming year. An important upgrade is to bring a robust, interactive online presence. The Web is the forum of generation Y – you can’t compete with its timeliness and versatility. Our staff is in the process of developing plans for the Web, and we’re all excited about the possibilities the medium will open.

As we met with printers, browsed through paper samples and tested different types of bindings, we passed the point of no return. We had laid our hands on the magazine, and it was changed, for good or bad, forever. It all became very real to us very quickly. It was exhilarating and terrifying. UNCW and Wilmington in general have fantastic artistic voices. There is so much going on here – from the Creative Writing department to the city’s film industry and the abundance of galleries. At *Atlantis*, we just want this outlet to be part of that voice.

**Emma Bolden** (M.F.A. 2005) was an artist-in-residence in a Chambers County school during the 2007-08 academic year.


**Lesley Richardson’s** (M.F.A. 2003) poem “Stilettos” was published in the June 2007 edition of the *California Quarterly*.


**Matt Tullis** (M.F.A. 2005) has accepted a tenure-track faculty position as assistant professor of Journalism/English in the English Department at Ashland University.


**For more information about the B.F.A. program**, contact the coordinator, Lavonne Adams, adamsl@uncw.edu.
UNCW creative writing students have begun a study abroad exchange with their counterparts in London. This opportunity came about from a lunch that Michael White shared with a couple of University of Roehampton creative writing professors during fall break 2006, while White was in London doing research for a nonfiction book he is writing about Johannes Vermeer. At the lunch, White proposed an exchange in which classes of writers could visit the other campus, each program benefiting from the other’s most notable assets.

Our first London trip took place in November 2007 as part of a semester-long seminar organized in support of the trip. Students prepared for weeks in advance, selecting and studying London-based writers, with each student developing individual research proposals. In London, students from each program participated in a joint reading, a lecture and other campus activities. The UNCW writers also enjoyed several professionally guided tours of cultural sites, and pursued individual research. Upon returning to UNCW, the course revisited the selected writers and then became a multi-genre writing workshop, as the students submitted work based upon their readings, their research and their travels.

The group of creative writers from Roehampton is scheduled to be here in fall 2008. Their focus will be on the Publishing Laboratory, but will also involve joint participation in activities with our students. This will be an ongoing exchange and will continue to evolve to meet the needs of the student writers from each university.

**Student Thoughts:**

“I felt myself stretching into blurry areas, taking my observations, experiences and perceived truths and funneling them into a strange work of which I’m incredibly proud. The trip to London was instrumental to this process, not only because of the research involved, but more so for the opportunity to gain some perspective on culture, history and art.”

— Gina Whitney
This year *Ecotone* has continued to grow and have success as a nationally distributed journal. After just four issues, *Ecotone* has received significant recognition as a top literary journal in *The Best American Series*. Kevin Brockmeier’s story, featured in *Ecotone* Volume 3, Issue 1, “The Year of Silence” was chosen by Salman Rushdie for publication in *The Best American Short Stories 2008*. Brian Doyle’s essay “Fishering” from *Ecotone* Volume 2, Issue 1 was selected for *The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2007*. Michael Branch’s essay “Endlessly Rocking,” Gary Finke’s essay “The Handmade Court,” and Robert Root’s essay “The Pattern of Life Indelible” were all notable selections in *The Best American Essays 2006*. In addition, Alicita Rodriguez’s story “Imaging Bisbee” will be included in 2008’s *New Stories from the Southwest* (Ohio University Press).

Reimagining Place was recently launched as an online companion site to *Ecotone*. The site originally was hatched as a marketing tool, to generate interest in and traffic to the print journal. While it initially took the form of a blog, the site quickly transformed into an online journal and attracts traffic from writers and readers across the country. Reimagining Place is publishing both new and well-established writers using the “literary series” format. While it is enjoying moderate success, there is a desire for continued expansion and growth. The hope for the near future is to maintain a blog alongside the online journal element.

Forthcoming from *Ecotone*, in spring 2009, is a special issue celebrating the bicentennial of Charles Darwin’s birth. For this issue the journal is holding an Evolution Contest and is accepting submissions in poetry, fiction and non-fiction that creatively reflect the subject of evolution. The contest will be judged by author Jennifer Ackerman.
Yusef Komunyakaa was born in 1947 in Bogalusa, L.A., where he was raised during the beginning of the Civil Rights movement. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1970 as a correspondent and managing editor of the Southern Cross during the Vietnam War, earning him a Bronze Star.

He began writing poetry in 1973 and received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado Springs in 1975. His first book of poems, Dedications & Other Darkhorses, was published in 1977, followed by Lost in the Bonewheel Factory in 1979. During this time, he earned his M.A. from Colorado State University and an M.F.A. from University of California Irvine.

Komunyakaa first received wide recognition following the 1984 publication of Copacetic, a collection of poems built from colloquial speech that demonstrated his incorporation of jazz influences. He followed the book with two others: I Apologize for the Eyes in My Head (1986), winner of the San Francisco Poetry Center Award, and Dien Cai Dau (1988), which won The Dark Room Poetry Prize.

He also has written dramatic works, including Gilgamesh: A Verse Play (Wesleyan University Press, 2006), and Slip Knot, a libretto in collaboration with Composer T. J. Anderson and commissioned by Northwestern University.

Komunyakaa’s honors include the William Faulkner Prize from the Université de Rennes, the Thomas Forcade Award, the Hanes Poetry Prize, the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize and fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, the Louisiana Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Carolyn Ferrell is the author of the short story collection Don’t Erase Me, which received the Art Seidenbaum Award of The Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the John C. Zachiris Award given by Ploughshares and the Quality Paperback Book Prize for First Fiction. Her stories have been anthologized in The Best American Short Stories.
Stories of the Century: Giant Steps: The New Generation of African American Writers; The Blue Light Corner: Black Women Writing on Passion, Sex, and Romantic Love; and Children of the Night: The Best Short Stories by Black Writers, 1967 to the Present. Ferrell has been the recipient of grants from the Fulbright Association, the German Academic Exchange (D.A.A.D.), the City University of New York MAGNET Program and the National Endowment for the Arts (Literature fellow for 2004). She received a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College and an M.A. from the City College of New York. She lives in New York and teaches writing at Sarah Lawrence College.

Scott Huler is the author of three books, including the acclaimed Defining the Wind. Huler is a professional journalist, and his articles have been published in The New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times and other leading North American newspapers and magazines. He is a frequent NPR contributor and lives in Raleigh.

John Lane’s writing has been published in Orion, American Whitewater, Southern Review, Terra Nova and Fourth Genre. His books include Circling Home, Waist Deep in Black Water, The Woods Stretched for Miles and Chattooga (all published by University of Georgia Press), several volumes of poetry, and Weed Time, a gathering of his essays. Lane is an associate professor of English at Wofford College.

With Betsy Teter, Lane co-founded the Hub City Writers Project, a non-profit literary arts organization in Spartanburg, S.C., whose publications and activities celebrate place and community.

Louis Rubin is the founder of Algonquin books. He spent two years at the College of Charleston and received his B.A. in history from the University of Richmond after serving in the United States Army during World War II. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1953, while still at Johns Hopkins, he co-edited his first book, Southern Renascence, and in 1955 published Thomas Wolfe: The Weather of His Youth. He has continued to write prolifically, publishing 40 books since that time. Before settling on an academic career, Rubin worked as a journalist for newspapers and the Associated Press in Hackensack, N.J. Wilmington, Del. Baltimore, Md; and Staunton and Richmond, Va.

Rubin is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including Sewanee Review, Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships, the Oliver Max Gardner Award, the Mayflower Award, the Distinguished Virginian Award, and honorary degrees from the University of Richmond, the College of Charleston and Clemson University. He received the North Carolina Award for Literature in 1992 and, most recently, the R. Hunt Parker Memorial Award for lifetime contributions to the literary heritage of North Carolina.


Peter Steinberg began his career in publishing as an assistant at HarperCollins. He later became an agent at Donadio & Ashworth (later Donadio & Olson) where he worked with notable literary figures, including Mario Puzo, Chuck Palahniuk, Peter Matthiessen, Robert Stone, Cathleen Schine and Edward Gorey. After four years with Donadio, he moved to JCA Literary Agency, where he worked for three years, before coming to Regal Literary in 2004. In the fall of 2007, he formed The Steinberg Agency. He’s interested in literary and commercial fiction, history, humor, narrative nonfiction, short story collections and the occasional young adult novel. Steinberg received an undergraduate degree in film production from New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.

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Visiting Writers

The Department of Creative Writing is committed to bringing the best authors in all genres to be a part of our writing community. Visiting writers spend a month or a semester living and teaching among our own students and faculty, or come for shorter stays. Their workshops, critiques, informal discussions and public readings richly complement our curriculum.

A. Van Jordan is the author of three books of poetry including Rise (Tia Chucha Press, 2001), which won the PEN/Oakland Josephine Miles Award and was selected for the Book of the Month Club from the Academy of American Poets; and M-A-C-N-O-L-I-A (W.W. Norton & Co, 2005), which won the Anisfield-Wolf Award, a Whiting Writers Award, a Pushcart prize in 2006, 30th Edition, and was listed as one of the Best Books of 2005 by The London Times. His most recent collection, Quantum Lyrics (W.W. Norton & Co), was released in July 2007. A recipient of a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, he is an associate professor of English at the University of Texas at Austin and serves on the faculty at the M.F.A. Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College.

Haven Kimmel is the author of the bestselling memoir A Girl Named Zippy: Growing up Small in Mooreland, Indiana (2001). She earned her undergraduate degree in English and creative writing from Ball State University and a graduate degree from North Carolina State University. She also attended seminary at the Earlham School of Religion in Richmond, Ind. In addition to A Girl Named Zippy, Kimmel has written a second memoir, She Got up Off the Couch (2005) and three novels, The Solace of Leaving Early (2002), Something Rising (Light and Swift) (2004), and most recently The Used World (2007). Her other works include a poetic children’s book, Orville: A Dog Story (2003), and a retelling of the Book of Revelation in Killing the Buddha: A Heretic’s Bible (2004) edited by Peter Manseau and Jeff Sharlet. She has received two National Endowment for the Arts Grants.

Elizabeth Kostova is the author of the best-selling novel The Historian (2005). She graduated from Yale University and holds an M.F.A. from the University of Michigan where she won the Hopwood Award for the Novel-in-Progress.

Katherine Buckner Reading Series

John Updike is one of America’s most prolific and celebrated authors. He has published more than 60 books, including novels, collections of short stories, poetry, drama, essays, memoirs and literary criticism. His numerous awards include a National Book Award for his novel The Centaur and two Pulitzer Prizes for Rabbit is Rich and Rabbit at Rest. He was only the third American to win a second Pulitzer Prize in the fiction category. At age 32, he became the youngest person ever elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters. In 1989 he received the National Medal of Art and in 2003 he was presented with the National Medal for the Humanities. To be awarded both these medals is a distinction few share.
**Young Writers Workshop**

The Young Writers’ Workshop is a week-long camp for high school students interested in learning more about the craft of writing and will mark its seventh consecutive summer in 2008. This year’s Young Writers’ Workshop begins Tuesday, June 17 and runs through Saturday, June 21.

The schedule includes morning writing exercises, which help students generate new poems, stories and essays, craft lectures by various creative writing faculty members and graduate students, and afternoon workshops. Other activities for the week include an open mic, a journal-making party and an excursion to Wrightsville Beach for a special end of camp reading.

The workshop is held on the UNCW campus each year. Students stay in the residence halls and take meals in the dining facility.

This year program coordinators Kara Norman and David Johnson hope to award scholarships to writers of exceptional talent.

For more information on YWW, visit www.uncw.edu/writers or e-mail youngwriterscamp@uncw.edu.

**Writers in Action**

Writers in Action (WIA) is a program that sends M.F.A. students into the community to lead creative writing classes for area youths. The project allows the M.F.A. students to use their talents and interests to become agents of social change and acquire valuable teaching experience. It also provides an excellent opportunity for young people to improve their writing skills and for all residents to create a solidified cultural community.

This year Writers in Action has continued its work with the SAGE Program for gifted youth in the fifth grade at Blair Elementary School and expanded its services to include fourth grade students. In December 2007 these students were invited to UNCW to read from the work they completed over the course of the fall semester. This was the first annual celebration for Blair Elementary students, and it was featured in the January issue Wilmington Parent.

Over the past year WIA has sought to broaden its outreach. The expansion includes a partnership initiated with Child Advocacy and six-week writing programs offered to Skills for Success, a program for youth offenders, and Grandparent Group, a support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren. WIA was also asked to judge the New Hanover Public Libraries ’08 poetry competition.

M.F.A. student participation has increased from previous years, and all the hard work has not gone unnoticed. In February 2008 co-coordinator Ashley Shivar represented WIA in an interview by The Forum, a product of New Hanover County Schools. The interview aired on Time-Warner channel 5 and Charter channel 12.
Under the leadership of director Emily Smith, the hardworking students and staff in the Publishing Laboratory have continued to produce wonderful and diverse work. This year three new titles are forthcoming: A Job for Arabella, The Hatterasman (50th Anniversary Edition) and The Bottle Chapel at Airlie Gardens: A Tribute to Minnie Evans. The Pub Lab is also proud to announce its new partnership with John F. Blair, publisher. In January 2008, Blair became the exclusive distributor for titles from the Publishing Laboratory. Since 1954 the company has specialized in nonfiction books about the Southeast: travel, history, folklore, cookbooks and more. Of the partnership Emily Smith says: “The Publishing Laboratory is thrilled to partner with John F. Blair to distribute our titles to the trade. Although we’ve successfully promoted our titles in the Wilmington area, we’re anxious to share our authors and books with a wider readership. Demand for Pub Lab books was beginning to exceed our small staff’s capabilities. Blair shares our deep commitment to furthering the literary arts in our university and community.”

“The Publishing Laboratory is thrilled to partner with John F. Blair to distribute our titles to the trade.”

A Job for Arabella by Pat Nowak with illustrations by Mary Alice Baumgardner describes the life of an adopted puppy, Arabella, as she undergoes training and trials before eventually realizing her dream of becoming a service dog. Nowak was inspired to write this book after experiencing first-hand the dedication required to train a service dog and the resultant joy of providing a person in need with a companion. The book resulted from a collaboration between the Pub Lab and the Carolina Canines for Service, a non-profit organization dedicated to training and providing service dogs for persons with disabilities.

The Hatterasman is Ben Dixon MacNeill’s classic memoir of North Carolina’s Outer Banks. Fifty years after its original publication, the Publishing Laboratory made The Hatterasman the first selection in its series “Lives in Place,” a series that features titles of literary and cultural significance to the region. The 50th anniversary edition features a new introduction by Philip Gerard and a biographical essay by Barbara Brannon. The book is expected to be available in May 2008.

Minnie Evans was the gatekeeper of Wilmington’s historic Airlie Gardens from 1949 to 1974 and is considered one of America’s most important visionary artists. The Bottle Chapel at Airlie Gardens: A Tribute to Minnie Evans chronicles the inspiration, design and intense, year-long construction of the Minnie Evans Memorial Sculpture Garden by a team of North Carolina sculptors led by artist Virginia Wright-Frierson. The book features more than 50 full-color photographs and collects, for the first time, the story of Minnie Evans, her visionary art and the garden that now memorializes her.
Starting in 2008, UNCW’s Department of Creative Writing and The Publishing Laboratory will be designing Chautauqua (formerly Chautauqua Literary Journal). This represents a partnership with Chautauqua Institution in New York, which pioneered “vacation learning” and “distance learning” 134 years ago, and is underwriting a fellowship for an M.F.A. student who will work in the Publishing Laboratory on design and editing the annual journal.

Chautauqua is devoted to presenting work of the highest literary quality that reflects the core values of Chautauqua Institution: a sense of inquiry into important matters of individual, social, political, educational, aesthetic and spiritual concern. Chautauqua Institution hosts a nine-week summer season that focuses on lectures, classes and performances in all the arts. The Chautauqua Writers’ Center, whose board oversees the journal, has strengthened the role of literary arts on-site and the journal is meant to expand the audience for literary arts internationally. The co-editors of the journal are Jill Gerard and Philip Gerard. The inaugural issue will be an anthology of authors who have taught workshops at Chautauqua or participated in the annual Writers’ Center festival, celebrating 20 years of the Writers’ Center.

Betsy Teter is a founder and executive director of the Hub City Writers Project, a non-profit literary arts organization in Spartanburg, S.C., whose publications and activities celebrate place and community. Hub City, which has published 32 books and more than 180 writers since 1996, also sponsors events, readings and workshops; hosts an annual creative writing contest; and makes visits to schools and colleges.

The organization has received several regional and national awards, and its community-based publishing program has been featured in The New York Times, Southern Living, Utne Reader, Orion magazine and other publications. Hub City is the winner of the S.C. Governor’s Elizabeth O’Neill Verner Award for the Arts (2002), the S.C. Governor’s Award for the Humanities (2006) and two “Ippy Awards” from Independent Publisher magazine (1999, short story, and 2005, multicultural nonfiction).

Teter is a native of Spartanburg and holds a B.A. in history from Wake Forest University. Prior to helping found the Writers Project, she was a journalist for 15 years and served as business editor and columnist for the Spartanburg Herald-Journal.

Louise Shivers is the author of two novels, Here to Get My Baby Out of Jail, which was named Best First Novel of the Year by USA Today in 1983 and was made into the movie Summer Heat, and A Whistling Woman, which garnered Shivers the Georgia Author of the Year award in 1993. She is the recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and has served as Writer-in-Residence at Augusta College for more than 20 years.

UNCW Writers Week is supported in part by a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council.
The Shannon A. Morton Fellowship, a graduate merit scholarship is awarded by faculty nomination, to a second-year M.F.A. student whose creative work shows outstanding promise. This was awarded to **Jason Mott**.

The Robert H. Byington Leadership Fellowship honors the outstanding leadership and pioneering work of Byington in establishing the Creative Writing Program at UNCW and is funded by Philip Gerard. It is awarded at the start of the thesis year to an M.F.A. student of outstanding creative achievement who has demonstrated unusual generosity of spirit toward faculty, staff and peers and who has contributed significantly to the morale, community spirit and excellence of the M.F.A. program. This year it was awarded by faculty and student nomination to **Miriam Parker**.

The Lavonne Adams Award, created by M.F.A. students, is awarded by student nomination and vote. It is designated for a graduating M.F.A. student who, throughout his or her enrollment in the program, has shown an all-around dedication to the M.F.A. program, his or her work and the creative writing community. The recipient should have contributed to the academic and social health of the program, as well as the writing community at large. This year this award went to **Hannah Abrams**.

The Furia Award is funded by Laurie Patterson of UNCW’s Computer Science Department. The recipient of the award is an M.F.A. student who, through coursework, M.F.A. exam and/or thesis, demonstrates the greatest historical understanding of her genre. This year the award went to **Rory Laverty**.

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to Rodgers & Hart with chanteuse Banu Gibson whose New Orleans Hot Jazz Trio performed at Kenan Auditorium as a fundraiser for UNCW, radio station WHQR and the Cape Fear Jazz Appreciation Society. He reprised two musical tributes to the Gershwins and to Johnny Mercer with Brad Moranz and Company at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival. His most recent book, America's Songs: The Stories Behind the Songs of Broadway, Hollywood, and Tin Pan Alley (co-author Michael Lasser) will be out in paperback in March 2008, and his current book, The Songs of Hollywood (with Laurie Patterson), has been placed under contract with Oxford University Press. Furia also gave a talk on jazz and popular song lyrics at an NEH seminar at Washington University in St. Louis and will give the Windham Lecture at Middle Tennessee State University in April.

Philip Gerard’s essay The Fact Behind the Facts, or How You Can Get It All Right and Still Get It All Wrong appeared in Brevity.com.

David Gessner has given more than 30 talks, lectures and keynote addresses that featured his most recent book Soaring With Fidel, released by Beacon Press in April 2007. His work has been published in The New York Times, Oxford American, River Teeth, Orion, Outside Magazine, Isotope, OnEarth and The Boston Sunday Globe among others. In July 2007 his essay, “Experiencing a Feeling of Wildness,” appeared on the “This I Believe” segment of NPR’s All Things Considered. He also served as thesis advisor for Jay Varner, whose thesis manuscript, Burn, was accepted for publication by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill.

Malena Mörling was awarded a fellowship by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to support artistic creation. She is using her Guggenheim Fellowship to fund a year-long sabbatical from teaching and is working on her third collection of poetry.

All Will Be Revealed, Robert Siegel’s second novel, was published in March 2007 and will be available in paperback in March 2008.

Emily Smith wrote the biographical introduction to Spartanburg Revisited: A Second Look at the Photographs of Alfred and Bob Willis, which was published in November 2007 by Hub City Writers Project. She spent a week as writer-in-residence at Wildacres Retreat, located in the North Carolina mountains, in June 2007. She also recently designed two books, a poetry anthology and a book of nonfiction.
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